taken. Byadgi Sangha has done it. Even in our State, in Channapatna, an agreement has been arrived at. We see a good number of cows passing through Davangere for sale outside the State for the purpose of slaughter, and sold at ridiculouly low prices. The loss to the State on this account cannot be estimated, especially in these days when the cost of milk, butter, etc., has gone up so very high. It is advisable to appoint Committees in every taluk and district to investigate the matter, and arrange for the prohibition of slaughter of cows.

Mr. C. Rasul Khan.—It is only the low class of people that slaughter cows and eat their flesh. It is a religious obligation on the part of Mahomedans to taste beef, once a year at least. Yet in deference to the susceptabilities of our Hindu brethren we agreed to break the rule and forego slaughter of cows. If there is good harmony between the Hindus and Mahomedans, the latter will certainly co-operate with the former, and render all possible help to prevent slaughter. Let the Hindus refrain from music in front of mosques, and we promise to let cows alone.

Dewan.—All right. The matter will be considered.

SUBJECT. No. 27.

A Regulation on the lines of the Indian Copyright Act.

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao, Mysore University.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya.—I support the proposition.

Second Member of Council.—The question of the introduction of a Regulation on the lines of the Indian Copyright Act will be placed before the Legislative Council, and we will await the decision that will be arrived at there, before taking any further steps.

SUBJECT No. 28.

Prevention of bribery in cerain Departments.

Mr. Kanchugar Kalappa, Chitaldrug Municipality, H. Krishna Sastri, Krishnarajpete Taluk and H. Krishna Rao, Koppa Taluk.

Mr. K. Kalappa.—In the Registration Department, the practice of taking bribes has very much increased and it is a great hardship on the raiyats and others who may have occasion to get documents registered. If the fee is Rs. 10 the bribe also is Rs. 10. In the Railway Department if the freight per bag is Rs. 2, Rs. 3-8-0 is actually charged. There are thefts in addition to this. As according to the Indian Penal Code, even the person that offers a bribe is punishable, nobody can come forward with a case against an official. It is therefore necessary to amend the Penal Code. There is no salvation otherwise.

Mr. Justice K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar.—What do you propose ?

Mr. K. Kalappa.—Indemnity in the case of the person who pays.

Mr. Justice K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar.—Without indemnity, bribery is rampant. It will be worse otherwise.

Mr. Shamaiengar.—It is because of this want of indemnity that people will not come forward to divulge information. Bribery goes on unchecked.

Mr. Syed Khaja Peeran.—The difficulties experienced by the people on this account cannot be expressed. I have lodged several complaints against the Station Master of Tarikere in the matter of corruption, but to no purpose. Bribery prevails to a great extent in the Railway Department.

Mr. Rasul Khan.—It is only the raiyats that voluntarily offer bribes to officials in order to get their work done; so the officials are not to be blamed for this. No action therefore seems to be necessary. It is the people

that tempt. There will be no bribery if we desist from paying. We cannot have the face to press this subject. The case of the Railway Department is different.

Mr. Krishna Sastri.—On a question of principle, the existing defect should be remedied. An amendment of the Penal Code is necessary, as, by this, people will readily come forward to prove cases of corruption. Wherever there is a complaint, investigations should be made by responsible officers. The Members of Council, Heads of Departments and Deputy Commissioners should, as far as possible, make enquiries, whenever they tour, into the cause of complaints in this direction. Surprise visits immensely help the prevention of corruption and such visits should be made by officers on suitable occasions. Suggestions have been given many times, but nothing has come out of them.

Mr. H. Krishna Rao.—Recommendations have been accepted by the Government of Punjab in the matter of (1) prevention of bribes and (2) stoppage of punishment of the men that are obliged to pay bribes, and practical measures are being considered. Simlarly, a committee may be appointed here to investigate the matter and give suggestions. As many of the persons that offer bribes are uneducated, ignorant and innocent, it is not fair to inflict any punishment on them. An amendment of the Penal Code is therefore necessary.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurti Rao.—I have brought to the notice of higher authorities, cases in which corruption was practised by officials, but no substantial results came out of the same. The practice of taking bribes in the Registration Department is very much on the increase. As the power of inflicting punishment rests with the Government, the Inspector-General cannot decide any case finally, and he can only report to Government, cases with his opinion. It is necessary to increase the powers of the Inspector-General in this respect. No surprise visits are being paid regularly at present; and this is very necessary. The Heads of Departments and Deputy Commissioners should be made to exercise better supervision.

Second Member of Council.—The Indian Penal Code cannot be amended. There are supervising officers who will enquire into the matter whenever there is room for complaint, and if any official is at fault, he will be dismissed or suspended or dealt with in any other manner, according to the nature of the mistake committed by him. Surprise visits will also be paid with a view to detect cases of this nature. If any particular case is brought to the notice of the authorities, immediate action will be taken and enquiries instituted.

Dewan.—It is the duty of every Government to maintain purity of the service as well as to prevent corruption, and all I can tell this Assembly is that we shall try our best to do our duty in both these respects.

The question of amending the Penal Code as a measure to prevent corruption is not feasible at all. There are many practical difficulties in regard to the prevention of corruption. The chief difficulty according to my experience is that we cannot always get proper evidence against a subordinate official whose reputation

is bad, which is of a sufficiently conclusive character for punishment, as people do not come forward. If there is corruption in a village, or in a taluk, or in a district, Government expect that there should be sufficient public opinion, feeling, and courage to expose that corruption. I give you my word that if people come forward and convince the Government of corruption in the case of any official, *he shall go out of office.*

On the other hand, there are grave dangers. An officer may be very strict, just and impartial. He may fearlessly do his duty to the people and also to Government. He may create enemies even by the perfect discharge of his duties. Anonymous petitions may be sent and an unholy intrigue may be set up against him. If the Government does not protect such officers, the whole service will become demoralised.

These are the two important considerations. Where there is corruption, it must be suppressed. Where there is an unholy agitation against a public servant, he must be protected. We shall do both.

I might also mention my experience in this conection. While in British service, I had to deal with cases of this kind. If certain cases come to the notice of Government, they may notify pardon to those people who will come forward to give concrete evidence to prove corruption. People who are parties to the corruption are as much guilty in the eyes of the law, as the person who takes the bribe. There is naturally hesitation and fear, and they will write anonymous petitions. I have myself conducted certain cases and made enquiries in British India against corrupt officials, by giving pardon with the permission of of Government; and there was no prosecution against such witnesses. But that is only a half measure. I can only say that the prevention of corruption can be effectively done only with the co-operation of the people.

PROTECTION—(JUDICIAL).

(*Nos. 29 to 43.*)

SUBJECT NO. 29.

Publication of notices relating to Insolvency Petitions.

Mr. P. Kanni Settappa, Chikballapur Taluk.

Mr. P. Kanni Settappa.—The Court will cause to be published in the *Gazette* the names of persons who petition to become insolvents, but the public will not be in a position to know whether those petitioners will actually be declared insolvents or not by the Court after formal enquiries. It would therefore be better if the final adjudication of the Court is caused to be published in the *Gazette*—English and Kannada—and also in the local Vernacular papers in order to give wide publicity to the fact.

Mr. Justice K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar.—There is an order to the effect that the adjudication of the Court should also be published, and it is being done so in the English copy of the *Gazette.* There is no objection to its being published in the papers; but it will mean unnecessary cost to the party.

Dewan.—Arrangements will hereafter be made to publish the same in the Kannada copy of the *Gazette.*